

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The pending claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Nishio et al. in view of Nomoto et al. Reconsideration is requested.

Claim 1 has been amended and now calls for “a screw base”, and “a multi-chip module including a complete ballast circuit formed on a circuit board inside said screw base”. Nishio et al. shows a multi-chip module formed on a circuit board disposed outside of a screw base. Nomoto et al. also only shows an oscillator transformer 5 outside of a screw base 2 inside an outer case 1.

Moreover, claim 1 requires a “thermally conductive body disposed around aid ballast circuit within said screw base, and thermally connecting said screw base to said ballast circuit”. As acknowledged in the Office Action, Nishio et al. “does not specifically teach a thermally conductive body disposed within said base”. Nomoto et al. shows a silicon rubber molding compound disposed between an oscillator transformer 5 and outer case 1. Outer case 1 is used for dissipating heat, not screw base 2. Therefore, neither reference teaches or suggests a CFLP that includes a ballast circuit formed on a circuit board inside the screw base thereof, and thermally connected to the screw base by a thermally conductive body, as called for by claim 1. Reconsideration is, therefore, requested.

Claim 38 includes all of the limitations of claim 1. Claim 38 further includes a diffuser cover directly attached to the screw base “without an intermediate compartment disposed therebetween”. On the other hand, Nishio et al. teaches a compartment 14, which receives the ballast circuit and is connected at one end thereof to screw base 12, and at the other end thereof to diffuser cover 17. Thus, diffuser cover 17 is not directly attached to screw base 12. That is, there is an intermediate compartment 14 disposed therebetween. Also, Nomoto et al. teaches outer case 1, which is connected to screw base 2 at one end thereof, and connected at the other end thereof to diffuser cover 3. Thus, Nomoto et al. does not teach a diffuser cover directly attached to a screw base without an intermediate compartment disposed therebetween. It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that claim 38 is also allowable over the art of record.

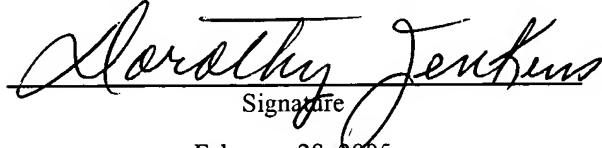
Reconsideration is requested.

Claims 2-16 depend from claim 1 and claims 39-42 depend from claim 38. Each of these dependent claims includes other limitations, which in combination with those of its base claim are not shown or suggested by the art of record. Reconsideration is requested.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Such allowance is earnestly solicited.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

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